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**Letter dated 17 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to attach herewith the press statement issued by the Arab coalition forces to restore legitimacy in Yemen on 16 February 2016.

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdallah **Al-Mouallimi**
Permanent Representative

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## Annex to the letter dated 17 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

### Statement issued by the coalition to restore legitimacy in Yemen

Tuesday, 16 February 2016

Coalition forces in the port of Jazan have stopped a vessel suspected of transporting prohibited items into Yemen. The vessel had left Djibouti bound for the port of Hudaydah, which is under the control of the Houthi militias, when it was intercepted by coalition forces and taken to Jazan for inspection. The vessel that has been seized belonged to the United Nations World Food Programme and had been transporting humanitarian assistance to Yemen as part of the relief programme for the Yemeni people. However, it has become apparent that the vessel's cargo did not consist solely of items whose importation into Yemen is permissible. Certain World Food Programme staff members were responsible for bringing undeclared items onto the seized vessel. In so doing, they made deceitful use of United Nations procedures.